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Dec. 8, 1974

Nan H. Taylor
(Signature - Interference)

Kennore Lane
Address

Huntington, W. Va.

Date

Dec 8, 1974

Cathy T. Seaton
(Signature - Witness)

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AN INTERVIEW WITH:
Nan Hawkins Taylor

CONDUCTED BY:
Carter T. Seaton

DATE:
December 8, 1974

PLACE:
Huntington, W. Va.

TRANSCRIBED BY:
Brenda Perego

CTS: Mrs. Nan Hawkins Taylor (break in tape). Homewood Kennon Lane, she was born on September 24th, 1885. The date of this interview is December the 8th, 1974 and I'm Carter Seaton. Mrs. Taylor is my grandmother and through the interview as I talk to her I'll refer to her as Mam Maw. Mam Maw tell me about Huntington when you, when you first remember it.

NHT: Well I, to start a little further back than that. I think, uh, most of the history of the town would show that Huntington extended from the Guyandotte River to what we use to call Central City. And from the river back to the hills (microphone interference) but, and it was owned by a dozen families who were the original settlers here. Uh, up where St. Mary's Hospital is now is the Hagens and the Buffingtons, then the Laidleys and then the, uh, Holderbys, and the Holderbys owned the land where Marshall College is now and just down below that was called Holderbys' Landing, where the boats stopped. Further down were the Browns and the Beuhrings, and the Beuhrings' land extended back from the river to the hills and where the DAR cabin is now. And the, uh, uh, Johnsons were further on down.

CTS: What part of the town did your family own?

NHT: Well my family, uh, my grandfather lived back on the Beuhring land out in the country, uh, back of what is around Harveytown that part of the place. And, uh, as they say their vineyards was the DAR cabin and [CTS: Hum.] and see made, his daughters and sons came to Marshall College, attended Marshall College and they rode in on horseback two on a horse, and uh, to Marshall College, it was Marshall Academy in those days. And they tied their horses to a tree and went to their classes, they carried their lunch and then they, then they went out and untied their horses and rode home again. And there was no bridge over the Twelve Pole Creek there at 8th street, you had to go where 5th street was, you had to go through the creek and the rocks were such that you had to be careful some of um stuck up out of the water and some of um were down underneath.

CTS: They rode and stay all day and then ride their

[/NHT: And then they went back at night.] horses back home?

NHT: And, uh, but when I was a little girl, course that, that was what my mother told me when I was a little girl I lived right near the office on 6th avenue of the 9th street and there was a hotel across the street called the [/CTS: Adelpia.] Adelpia Hotel, it was a big hotel that was all resident section in there and the, really the town proper extended from about 8th street to 13th street and from the way, from 3rd avenue to, uh, 8th street, really to 7th, I mean 8th av--, 7th avenue. And, uh, 8th avenue was sort of a crosstrack not very many people lived there.

CTS: Well what was along that track?

NHT: Well [/CTS: What went the track?] they went, uh, up 16th street there was a big beech grove that extended from 16th street to 14th street, and uh, wa--, was on the southside, I mean the, the tracks were on the southside that ran through on the southside of this road and from the, during the Spanish American War when the, the soldiers had stopped, they ran the train through there when they got the engine got down to the, to the, uh, station the coaches were up at the building, [/CTS: In beech grove.] and uh, the soldiers would get off and visit and talk to us and throw us what they called hard tack, which was a little, like a little beaten biscuit.

CTS: Did, didn't you tell me you know, you could take picnics over in the grove?

NHT: We use to go over there and take up the tar and have picnics in that grove under those huge beech trees and the ground was all covered with needles, and pine needles and, and it was soft and nice.

CTS: How old were you about then?

NHT: Well then I was, uh, oh in my teens, early teens. But the first things that I remember was when I lived

down on 6th avenue, and uh, the town, uh, I remember the, the things that they, uh, they had the courthouse, the city courthouse and the, uh, jail there on 9th street and one of my first memories is of them taking a man from the jail and he came past the, out 9th street with crowds following he was in a horse drawn cart and they took him out to the 12th street, as far as 12th street and hung him there's a crowd, a public ha--, uh, hanging.

CTS: Were there lots of people?

NHT: Oh yes, to a child it seemed like an awful lot of people following.

CTS: That was a big day [NHT: Yeah.] those hanging.

NHT: It, it was a big day.

CTS: Well what was the other story you told me about the, the black man dragged down 3rd avenue?

NHT: Oh that was later on when that, that was a man that was up on, uh, I don't know what he had done but they caught him, he did something or other and he got away, escaped and went out on Rotary Hill and they finally, they took dogs and finally caught up with him there and they killed him and they tied him to a cart or to something and dragged him down 3rd avenue, I don't know . . .

CTS: Now when would that have been?

NHT: Well now I was old, [CTS: Um, mmm.] I was older.

CTS: What else do you remember about when you were a child, you said something about a pest house?

NHT: Oh I remember this pest house on, on the, uh, banks out at Ritter Park, wasn't Ritter Park then it was just a wooded area, and uh, they had this, uh, there was a smallpox, there was smallpox there then and they told us, they had this building there and it was called the pest house and they told us children

that that was where they took anybody that had smallpox and, uh, shut um up there.

CTS: They just left um to die?

NHT: And just left um, we thought, we thought maybe they'd left um now where that was true, whether they ever really did take anybody there, but I know some man when I was a child did have smallpox and did die from it and we all went around with asafetida bags around our necks (laughs) to keep from getting the smallpox.

CTS: What is that really, do you know?

NHT: I don't know but it smells awful (laughter) has the most terrible odor.

CTS: What else was down in that area?

NHT: And then on, uh, on the otherside of the creek a little further, I don't know if it was at the same time, I think it was earlier maybe they had a slaughter house, well I knew they had that and they killed, uh, slaughtered hogs and but eventually whether they sold that, uh, on the market or not I don't know, they probably did because they were no laws, uh, didn't have inspection of any.

CTS: Um, mmm.

NHT: And then in those days when I was a little older than that I remember very distinctly they had the, the uh, ice wagons that came past and stopped at your door and they had the milk wagons that came past and you took your pitcher out and they opened up the ten gallon can of milk you pour, they poured it into your pitcher, the dust flying all over the place, and uh, then they had, uh, a scoot light and the, the man came around every evening and let those lights down and put a new carbon of some sort in it and then put um back up so that it'd come on at night.

CTS: Well were most of the things delivered to your house like your groceries and [NHT: Yes, you . . .] your

ice and everything?

NHT: You, uh, you did go downtown and buy and inspecting some but you usually telephoned, we had telephones and we'd usually telephoned our grocery order in, uh, uh, if you lived close by, the uh, what we called the grocerman would come by and with a little pad and paper and he would take your order. And I remember one time my mother had gotten frighten and thought there was a burglar in the closet because she couldn't get the door open and she had gotten my father's pistol and gone up and tried to open the door so she couldn't, bout that time the grocerman came with his little pad and she went down and opened the door and forgot she had the gun and then she closed the door again (laughter).

CTS: Uh, you said something about a racetrack down in town, where was that?

NHT: Well now the, the town, you know, town proper ended about where the Bonton is now, and uh, at 8th street and below that on 6th avenue right, right on down there there was a racetrack and we use to go with our horse and buggy and drive down and go to the races.

CTS: Well where, where did you get the horse and buggy, was there a livery stable at that time?

NHT: Well we had, uh, people owned their, in those days they owned their horses, and uh, and the carriages, the big kind of carriages and they was a man named Kennet and he had a livery stable right back out where, uh, Mack and Daves store, old store was and you'd take your horse down and they would telephone if you wanted your horse and carriage and, and go for a ride that was the way everybody did in the morning after or the evening.

CTS: Where'd you ride?

NHT: We rode, we'd ride out sometimes out, uh, 16th street, you couldn't go very far in that time but we would go out there and once a month or week was, we'd have hayrides, sometimes and, uh, take a, get a crowd, put

hay in a wagon, and uh, we'd take . . .

CTS: You told me one time bout losing your horse when you went out?

NHT: Yes the horse, something happened to my horse that would, we'd have rides, uh, if a girl had a buggy she'd ask the boy and if the boy had the buggy he'd ask the girl and they's two in a, in a carriage and maybe there'd be a half a dozen carriages with chaperones, we always had chaperones and we'd ride out 16th and stop and have a, a picnic lunch or something and then drive back, that was about as far as you could get in the buggy.

CTS: What about out 5th street out by Vintondale, could you go out that way?

NHT: Well, uh, no you couldn't get out there my, uh, well you could but we never did go that way much, that was, uh, a little off the beaten path.

CTS: What, what other kinds of things did you all do to amuse yourself when, like when you were a teenager?

NHT: Well when we were a teenagers we, uh, there had been any, uh, parties you had to party in your home, you never went out to a public place where there were people that you didn't know to, uh, have your amusement. There were two clubs the, the Gypsy Club which is still in existence and the younger people had what they called the Occidental Club and they made in a hall they, once a year they had a dance they rented a hall I don't know what they call that hall but it was right across from Mack and Daves old place upstairs there, and uh, if anybody had had a drink, one of the boys had had a drink, the word went around the girls passed the word around nobody would dance with that boy that was a terrible thing.

CTS: Just a drink?

NHT: A drink, if they even could smell whiskey on um.

CTS: And did they have programs?

NHT: Oh we always had programs and I had a program I kept sixty years with all the names of the, the people that, they were very formal and we dressed up and went to the, uh, there was an opera house we called it down where, uh, the Bazzarr is now and we would go to. They had some mighty good shows in those days would stop over here and they had musicals and the tickets were sold, oh months ahead and we had a certain place we liked to sit and we dress up, wear great big picture hats and oh dress up in opera coats. You had to walk all the way I lived then out on 15th street, we had to walk all the way from down 8th street and 3rd avenue, out to 15th street and 6th avenue and that was some walk if you went fast.

CTS: And this was when you were in your later teens?

NHT: Yes, [CTS: You were . . .] that was when I was younger, uh, huh. And the, uh, let me think of something here.

CTS: You said something about, uh, card parties, what kind of card . . .

NHT: Yeah, the card parties were the, uh, they played the high five, they'd have it in their home, they'd have about, uh, half a dozen maybe or eight tables. And then we use to go calling and we'd, uh, take our calling cards and wear out hats and gloves, long flowing dress, and uh, really call on people [CTS: All dressed up and you'd walk?] all dressed up, yeah, you had to, yes you had to walk every place there was no other way to get there.

CTS: You, uh, bout, what about you played tennis, did you say that?

NHT: Well there was a tennis court on the corner of 13th street, and uh, 6th avenue and we use to play tennis there, we played in long skirts, we had dust ruffles on um hit the ground.

CTS: What good would a dust ruffle be?

NHT: Well it was suppose to keep the dust off your, off your, it was just a little piece of, uh, uh, material that was sewed on the bottom of your skirt.

CTS: It just kept the rest of your skirt from getting dirty?

NHT: Yes, to keep your skirt from getting dirty.

CTS: When you were younger when you went to school what'd you wear to school?

NHT: Well we usually wore a wool dress and you just had one or maybe two that you wore all winter long, and uh, then we wore white aprons, frilly aprons that, uh, over um, we'd have a fresh apron everyday but we wore the same dress all the time. On Sunday we had a special dress that we took off soon as we come in home.

CTS: (Laughs) what other things do you remember that were down in town different, you know, things that are there that aren't there now, is that, you know, where they were? You said something about that hotel that burn.

NHT: There was a hotel on 6th avenue called the Adelba and that burned and then the, uh, there was a Florentine and, uh, that was run by, uh, Miss Mary Daniel's father at that time and it was, uh, that was more of a home where people lived but transits could go there, and uh, that was called the Florentine and that was where, uh, there's a jewelry store there now.

CTS: Was that more of a residence hotel?

NHT: Yes, more of that kind, and uh, they, uh, they was an ice cream parlor around on 3rd avenue called Spangenberg's, and uh, everybody dressed up in the afternoon and went downtown and went to Spangenberg's and brought their friends and had a soda, a five cent soda, and uh, but at noon time, that was on 3rd avenue just about where Anderson's is right this side of it

and then they moved up on, uh, where George Wright place is now, they had a nice place up there, and uh, we use to go there alot.

CTS: Well what year would this be, bout what time of year, your teens?

NHT: Well I was in my teens then, yes.

CTS: Did they have the trolleys then?

NHT: Yes they had, uh, uh, one I think went up from 3rd avenue to the, to the, uh, station on 9th street and then went up 3rd avenue, uh, up to the Guyandotte Bridge and then they had one went up 6th avenue, uh, it went out, went out 16th street and up to what we called the Patch and then if you wanted to go to the cemetary that was about the only way you could go, get on that 6th avenue and get off at 20th street and then walk a boardwalk up to the cemetary and . . .

CTS: Well what cemetary is that?

NHT: And that's Springhill Cemetary, and I remember real well, uh, when they unveiled the, uh, uh, [CTS: Confederate monument?] confederate monument, they took, had a bandwagon, what they called a bandwagon, Kennet's bandwagon and they had four horses pulling and all these little girls was in, uh, daughters of the revolution I guess they was, maybe daughters of the confederacy is what it was, and they all load in this, bout a half a dozen of um load in this wagon out there and then one of um, Louise McClung, she was the aunt of Mack Webb, [CTS: Um, mmm.] uh, she pulled the string that unveiled that now they've since have stolen something from that, uh, that monument that was out there that she unveiled.

CTS: Well you say the guy's name that had the bandwagon was Kennet, is that the same person [NHT: Kennet.] who had the livery?

NHT: K-E-N-N-E-T, owned the town livery stable that was where you rented everything that you needed like their

horse and [CTS: Did he board everybody horse?] they boarded the horses too, people's horses and carriages.

CTS: How, you said something about going, uh, you know, some kind of a resort thing down in Kenova or something, [NHT: Oh there was an amusement park . . .] did you ride the trolley all the way down there?

NHT: Camden Park was there but there was another one further down almost to Catlettsburg, now this is between Catlettsburg and Ashland and it was called Cliffside. It was a real nice place and they had a pavilion where you could dance and then they had a lake and you could go to the (inaudible) and take boat rides in it, they rented the boats and you could go out and we'd have, we'd go down there on a, on the streetcar. A, uh, crowd and we use to get up a crowd and go down and dance and back.

CTS: And that would have been in your teens [NHT: That was . . .] too.

NHT: Yeah, that, I was younger then. Some of the people that use to go were the Caldwell boys and the Enslows.

CTS: What schools did you go to?

NHT: Well I, I went to, there was a school down about, across from the courthouse and I went there and then I think there was one about where the Farr Hotel right close there and I went there, but uh, cause I lived on 6th avenue and then I went to the one up to Oley School, Oley was an old school and I went there and I had an aunt, uh, I don't like to go to school at all but when I first went I ran away everyday for awhile, (laughter) but I finally, I uh, they got me satisfied up at Oley, and uh, I, I disliked it so much, we wore high button shoes and I'd unbutton my shoes and I had an aunt who was taught in the second grade and I would ask the teacher if I could go in there and get her button hook to button my shoes and I wouldn't come back (laughter). And I never liked school from the time it started everyday that I went I decided I'd go that day so I could stay home the next day, I was going to stay home the next day and the next day was

the same thing (laughter). And I never did like it till I went away to college, went away to beauty school.

CTS: Where'd you go to beauty school?

NHT: I went to, up in New York to a place which they don't have it now, it's right out of Terrytown and it was called the Castle, Miss Mason's school. It was between Irvington right there in that, uh, the Goulds and the, uh, all those people lived up there we use to go and I loved that, I really enjoyed that.

CTS: Is that before you went to Marshall?

NHT: No that was after I graduated from Marshall [CTS: Oh.]. I went to Marshall and, uh, uh, I went to hi--, to the school, high schools, I mean I didn't go to high school I went to the public schools and then when I got to high school age I went to Marshall, and I went through Marshall, finished up at Marshall.

CTS: Well what did they call that then, Marshall?

NHT: Well that was Marshall College when I went, when my mother went it was Marshall Academy, but when I went it was Marshall College, and uh, Professor Corbley was the head of the school, he was a professor.

CTS: He was the president then?

NHT: He was the president and he was very, uh, dignified and we use to, I remember they had, uh, chapel, I've forgotten whether they had it everyday or just once a week but we use to go up on the top floor of old main and they'd, uh, all the students were required to attend. They'd, uh, read the bible and have a prayer and do some singing, nobody spoke or anything it was just have, distinctly a religious service.

CTS: Were people required to go?

NHT: And we were, we were required to go to chapel [CTS: It was one of the periods, one of the classes?] yes, yes, yes they were over classes then everybody went to chapel.

And then another thing I remember about Marshall was the two debating societies, the literary, I mean the, uh, literary societies we called um they were, uh, the Erosophians and the Virginians and I belonged to the Virginians and they're suppose to be debating societies, I don't think I've ever been in a debate (laughs) but I belonged to the society anyway, and uh, . .

CTS: Was it partly a social thing, both societies?

NHT: No, no it was just a school thing entirely they, they just, [CTS: How many people were in it?] I expect there were forty or fifty people in it, I have a picture of all those people in that class taken just, uh, uh, west, north of where the old main and all those buildings there were buildings beyond that down in front. But that was just along field, meadow and we use to go, uh, in the winter go, uh, uh, sleigh riding there or coasting, [CTS: Down in there?] yeah, and one of the girls broke her arm there, coasting . . .

CTS: Just the only building there was old main?

NHT: No, old main and then they had the, the first building that was there that had a porch where all the teachers lived and where the dining room was that was the, uh, that was the original, the first building that they put there until, then I think they built on then and then they built two buildings in between there [CTS: Um, mmm.] connecting, and uh . . .

CTS: Oh yeah, I know which one you mean [NHT: Yeah.] down at the end.

NHT: Yes, and they built that and they, that was where most of the dormitories were [CTS: Um, mmm.] and where, uh, the dining room, and the parlor, and everything like that and had a lovely porch across it and these big rockers.

CTS: Did very many people live at, at, at the school?

NHT: Yes, right many, it wasn't a big school in those days you know, and uh, especially there wasn't alot of people from out of town but there were, they were alot

of people that came in from the different counties there, [CTS: Um, mmm.] and uh . . .

CTS: It was easier to live on the grounds than to go back and forth?

NHT: Yes, yes.

CTS: You don't know how big an enrollment you had?

NHT: No, I don't, I haven't any idea how many, uh, people went there but it was a pretty good size college then.

CTS: Well what year was it that you went to Marshall U?

NHT: Well I graduated there in nineteen four or five I've forgot which.

CTS: How long did it take to graduate?

NHT: I just went the three years [CTS: Three years?] I think it was, three or four years. And they had some right good teachers too.

CTS: Well what did you do after you got out of college then, didn't you go away to the school in New York?

NHT: Well I went away to Castle, went up north to Castle and I just went there for one year, and uh, it was suppose to be a finishing school and I said about all it finished was my father because it was so expensive and I spent so much money (laughter), all those people up there. But that was a, that was a really an interesting place because the snow went on, got on the ground in the, and stayed on all year and we had sleighs and we could, (pause) [CTS: Go ahead.] you could, you could take, uh, go sleigh riding and, and uh, [CTS: In the snow, had snow all the year?] all year, it didn't go off all year long and you just, and while we were there we went up to Rockefeller's, uh, place, went through his grounds all the Baptist girls, I was a Baptist in those days, and uh, all the Baptist girls were invited to come up with their teacher always had chaperones and we went up, and uh, we took some, had

our picture taken with old, old man Rockefeller,

[CTS: Oh really?] what was his name, uh, John

[CTS: John . . .] John D., yeah and he, he was always rubbing his hands always and he gave each one of the girls in that crowd, uh, we didn't get to go to his house we just went through his grounds now and he gave each one of us ten cents.

CTS: Hum (break in tape). . . how things were when you were young in your home.

NHT: Well we had, uh, fireplace, wooden fireplaces, and uh, burn coal and had to carry the ashes out and, uh, in the hall we had a stove, a big pot belly stove that we burn anthracite coal, and uh, and then my father made sure all the children around that, all of us got around that stove when it was our turn to be vaccinated.

CTS: And he wasn't even a doctor?

NHT: Oh no, he, he just, he just bought this, uh, little needle that, uh, and he just vaccinated us from the turn some of um took and some of um didn't (laughs) and we use to, uh, Sundays I never, I liked Saturdays I guess cause I didn't have to go to school but I never liked Sundays because we couldn't do anything but come home from school after we, uh, come home from Sunday school rather, attend Sunday school and church, and uh, then we had to go back that evening to young peoples' meeting but in the afternoon the grown ups came up and visited with our parents and, uh, we weren't allowed to get any lessons, couldn't study and we couldn't go out and play croquet, and we couldn't play marbles, we couldn't do anything except just sit around and I never liked it, never liked Sunday cause it was always such a long day but I loved to read and I usually while away the time with a book sometimes. And then on Sunday evening and sometimes on Sunday afternoon we would take a long ride, go ride out 16th street a ways and the whole family would go, always did things together within the whole family together. And, uh, then in the evening lots of times my mother would, would, uh, sit down on the couch, my father would lie

down and my mo--, mother would sit there by him and they'd sing songs, uh, "In The (inaudible)," and uh, all of those old songs and I can remember them I thought that was so nice. We had a real, uh, close relationship with our parents and with each other we were, uh, didn't fuss over much I can remember one time when we had a, uh, croquet game and I said I hit the, the, went to hit the space and my brother was so mad he threw his mallet at me and hit me in the head (laughter) but other than that I, I wasn't much of a scrapper. Now I had a cousin who, who uh, visited us alot, stayed, daddy almost raised her, and uh, she was just about my age and she and my brother they, they scraped and fought alot but I kept out I never liked to fight, I always kept out of the, the fights. We use to play marbles on the, the uh, rugs in the hall.

CTS: What other kinds of things did you do together, like make ice cream?

NHT: Well we did one thing (laughs) which was real dangerous, uh, this cousin of mine lived down on 4th avenue, uh, just about, let me see, I expect about where, uh, Dans or maybe in the block above. We would gather these big burrs, oh they was great big, prickly things, we'd get um off of some of a plant, I don't know in the fields I reckon and we'd soak um in oil, now where we got that oil and how I would do that I don't know. And then we'd take sticks, uh, and, and put a little something on there, something on the bottom so that they'd make things to hit with. And we'd set those on fire and put um out on the sidewalk and hit um up the street (laughs) now how we ever got away with that I don't know but we did.

CTS: That was a pasttime, huh?

NHT: Yeah that was, we thought that was alot of fun.

CTS: Did you all make ice cream and things like that on Sunday?

NHT: Make what?

CTS: Ice cream.

NHT: Well we use to, uh, freeze ice cream down in the basement after church on Sunday we'd come home and eat ice cream after that.

CTS: Did you do that alot or was that a special treat?

NHT: Well we did it, uh, in the summertime we had it most every Sunday but, uh, they had a, up above town, uh, in Barboursville the Millers had a ice cream parlor and everybody use to go up there to this homemade ice cream you couldn't just go and get ice cream any place and they'd go up there and get this, uh, where there was a roast beef special, and uh, we'd go up there.

CTS: How long did it take you to get clear up to Barboursville?

NHT: Well it was an afternoon's journey if you drove up and back course later on when they had cars, had an automobile, when the first automobiles came in, uh, there was a man here named Hamrick and he had the first one, / CTS: Well what kind was it? / automobile. I think it was a red car, a red one, sort of a, forgotten what they call it the red devil or something of like, like that. There were only one or two cars there in town.

CTS: There was something else you said reminded me you were telling earlier about the banks downtown, do you remember the one that / NHT: Well now the First National . . . / was suppose to been robbed?

NHT: Uh, the one that was robbed, yes that was the, uh, it's still standing there yeah, and uh, I don't know much about the bank itself but, uh, I remember hearing about Jesse James and all of um coming through and robbing that bank and then, uh, there was a bank, the First National was around on 3rd avenue across from Andersons and then the Second National was where, uh, Van Love's place is, that was a bank there.

CTS: What other stores were there downtown?

NHT: Well now Andersons Newcomb, uh, there was, uh, Deardorff

Sisler was the first, it was on, uh, where the Keith Albee is now and it burned, and uh, Mr. Garland the man name Garland had a dry goods store and where that Singer place is / CTS: Um, mmm. / across from the Huntington dry good. He had a dry good store there and then Mr. Valentine before the Valentine (inaudible) store had a store on 9th street, and uh, we use to go there. And there were two jewelry stores the Homricks and Wallace's, Homrick was across the street from where it is now, further down.

CTS: Now what is that, Reuschleins now?

NHT: Yes, well then they moved around to, on uh, 9th street / CTS: Um, mmm. / and then that's where they are now but the Wallace store was a bigger store and it was just about where Andersons, a little to one side there that was the . . .

CTS: Did you buy most of your clothes in Huntington?

NHT: Well I / CTS: If you bought um. /, I bought most of the things, uh, you couldn't buy things, clothes ready made very much, but uh, when I, I bought things when I was younger here we bought things here but then I went away to college, I went to Cincinnati, and uh, they had dressmakers down there and I had some dresses made down there to wear to school.

CTS: Were there better dress makers in Cincinnati?

NHT: Well they were, I don't know whether they were any better but we thought they were better anyway, you know, there weren't very many dress makers and that was about the only way that, uh, uh, women could earn a living in those days. There was no way, uh, for a woman to go out and make a living if you, you know, you sewed in your own home / CTS: Um, mmm. / and the people came and they picked out the way they wanted their dress made.

CTS: Did they have patterns or did they just, uh, . . .

NHT: I don't, I think they may have sent for patterns some and.

CTS: Tell me about some of the clothes, describe some of the clothes you had made when you went away.

NHT: Well had a, I had a brown crepe de chine with a lace bertha and high collar but the, the dresses all touched the floor and then there was a green crepe de chine and that was trimmed in, uh, rose colored velvet, little tiny velvet ribbon that was rose color and I had a cape that was a pale, pale grey on the outside and, uh, it was lined with rose colored satin and had a hood attached to it and wore that to the theater. And, uh, and I had a knit dress it was made out of, looked like, almost like curtain material it was so thin and sheer and it had flowers, rings of flowers in it, it was a real pretty dress.

CTS: Where would you wear these kind of dresses?

NHT: You wear um at school and then for dinner, you dressed every night for dinner and you had a regular uniform that you wear to school during classes and then in the evening everybody dressed up for dinner and went over and, at their home and usually they had a program or something going on and then they always had a chapel in the evening and all the body marched in and they had a prayer it was an Episcopal speaker, [CTS: This was . . .] I said I, I went to a Methodist Sunday school and I joined a Baptist church and I went to an Episcopal school and I married a Presbyterian (laughs) so I know about all the religions, [CTS: Well you told me you . . .] everything but the Catholic.

CTS: You told me you, you remember when Billy Sunday came here.

NHT: Oh I remember very well that was a big to do.

CTS: Now how old were you when that happened?

NHT: Oh I was married and had children, had one child and I went to, uh, we'd go to these meetings. They had, uh, he had a sawdust, what they call a sawdust trail, the ground was all covered with sawdust it was about, just below the courthouse, it was right below the

courthouse down there on 4th avenue. And the churches all united and had him come. He was a baseball player at one time and he was converted and he was a small man and just a live wire, wasn't much educated, wasn't too well educated but he examined and had um coming down the sidewalks and they had this big meeting, I don't know how long it'd last, two or three weeks I reckon, two weeks [CTS: Really?] and all the churches backed it and I remember George I. Neal who was a great political, uh, leader in those days was converted and he asked if he'd join the Baptist church and the deacon in the church was a real, [CTS: You mean he hadn't been very churchy before then?] no, he hadn't been at all so some of um did stick, some of the, the conversions did stick. And I can remember him preaching this mothers' day sermon, "Take this child and raise it for me," he had his, uh, sermon taking from Moses and the bullrushes where the pharaoh's daughter took him out of and, uh, gave him to his mother [CTS: Um, mmm.] and said, "Take this child and raise him for me." And that made such an impression on me I just had one child and I just felt well now that's what I've got to do (laughter).

CTS: When you were younger, uh, were you all, uh, well I know you, you had to go to Sunday school and church, but was religion a thing in the home or just left to Sunday school and church, did you all have family prayers and things?

NHT: Well it was left to Sunday school and church, uh, we didn't do by the eating, uh, didn't have the prayers and things like that, uh, but my grandfather did when we went over there they had prayers over there. And we did have a prayer by sometimes my father would try to do he introduced um in the church, and uh, uh, when I wanted to go to a, grew up and wanted to go to a dance he wouldn't, didn't think it was a good idea he thought it might ruined his influence in the church and so I didn't get to go.

CTS: And how old were you then?

NHT: Well I was grown, eighteen, seventeen, eighteen years

old, and uh . . .

CTS: How old were you when you got married?

NHT: I was about twenty one or two something like that, we went together for five years before we ever . . .

CTS: And all the time you were through Marshall and away at finishing school you [NHT: Yes, yes.] all had been dating all through that time?

NHT: Yes, yeah, my grandfather drove him up to Louisville, he worked for Shanahan Construction Company.

CTS: Well when you all dated when he'd come up on the week-ends were you allowed to go out without chaperones then?

NHT: Well, uh, yes I was, that was allright then but, uh, the chaperones were when, when you went to school, they had chaperones [CTS: Oh.] you didn't have to have, uh, chaperones at home.

CTS: But they were particular about who you went with, weren't they?

NHT: Yes, they, they wanted to know who they, who it was [CTS: And what their father did.] yes that's one thing they had the pride of, of family they always, when you start out my father would always say now remember who you are, and uh, remember what you're suppose to do and all, remember to buckle your (inaudible) and I, I was so bulky I was the oldest one of um and my poor little five, sister was just five years younger, uh, there was one of the boys, she was real popular, and uh, one of the boys that liked her that I didn't think much of, I didn't think he was socially acceptable and when he tried to give her a present I wouldn't let her take it and I don't know why my mother let me do that [CTS: (Laughs).] but, uh, I did, I did let her take any books that he gave her alot of books and I let her take those and I did let her take a, a belt buckle, little belt buckle that was her initials,

of course had her initials on it and other than that I made her send anything back (laughs).

CTS: Well your mo--, your mother was real proper too, I mean she had more [NHT: Well now she had an awful good . . .] grace than your father.

NHT: Good sense of humor and she, uh, saw the funny side of everything but she had taught school and she, uh, had had it hard and she knew the value of a dollar and she always said Mr. Hawkins spoiled the children, she always called him Mr. Hawkins all the years that she'd been married to him she called him Mr. Hawkins and they were married sixty years and she still called him that. And my grandfather's wife always called him Mr. Hawkins (inaudible).

CTS: Well your all, your family had money.

NHT: No they didn't, uh, huh.

CTS: No?

NHT: No they didn't have no money but my father, uh, was a s-s-successful merchant, and uh, my mother's people, uh, lived in Guyandotte, her mother in Guyandotte up there and her, her father came here from Germany [CTS: Um, mmm.] but he came, his, his father came over here and he was born in this country and then went back to Germany for his education, and uh, he . . .

CTS: This was the Beuhrings?

NHT: That was the Beuhrings and he never had any money at all, but uh, my father didn't have any very much but they had this little farm, uh, the Beuhrings then that was like all the rest of the people had and they sold that little farm for about \$3,000 it is now, what is called Ben Lohman I think it was just this side of the Ben Lohman property, and uh, they sold that and he bought an interest in Marr, uh, Emmons and Marr Hardware Company and that was where the Mack and Daves place originally was [CTS: Um, mmm.] and he had a hardware store there and he was successful

and they removed that, uh, on above where Van Love, where Mack and Daves are now, [CTS: Um, mmm.] he had a hardware store right there. And he did real well and he, uh, while we weren't rich at all nobody ever, uh, questioned money you didn't talk about money and such things as talking about what food cost or what you would buy and eaten that was absolutely unheard of. People didn't talk about such things, you didn't talk about money and you had, you didn't need a whole lot in those days there weren't alot of place to go, fifty cents was a good allowance, and uh, you didn't, uh, not very many people were really what you'd call rich. Now the Ensigns were pretty well off, the Enslows were pretty well off but most of those other families, uh, they were all about the same they all, they had what they needed and nobody ever questioned, uh, what you couldn't afford or anything if you wanted it, but we never did want.

CTS: But those were the families that owned alot of property and . . .

NHT: Yes they were all, they all had.

CTS: Were there any industries in Huntington then?

NHT: Well there was the, uh, Ensign up above town and the, uh, C&O shops that, uh, that was up near the Patch, what we call the Patch.

CTS: Why was it called that, do you know?

NHT: I don't know, but uh, you wouldn't know anybody lived in the Patch (laughs). Then, uh, there was a, an Iron Foundry down below the town that a man by the name of Ingram ran and they lived across when we, they lived across from us when we lived on sixth avenue where the telephone company is [CTS: Um, mmm.] and lived across there.

CTS: Did you all usually have a maid or a cook or, when you were growing up?

NHT: Well yes, uh, we didn't at first as I remember as was, as was a little girl I don't think we did but, uh, use to be a girl and we paid her a dollar and a half to three dollars a week (dog barks) and she come in the morning and she stayed all day, she cleaned your house when she came and then she got breakfast, when she'd arrive she'd do the supper dishes, and uh, we had a, you sent your laundry out, had a laundress that came to the house and took it out and brought it back in a basket.

CTS: Since most of the chores were done by other people then what did, what did the housewives do so to speak?

NHT: Well my mother I know she sewed some and I know they had what you call a sewing circle, five or six children she'd, you had to make an awful lot of things because you couldn't buy stuff ready made, you could buy the material, uh, but uh, mostly I remember what I did is sit on the front porch and embroidery, and uh, ride around in the, in the buggies that was about, go to parties, we just had a good time we didn't do anything (laughs), there was nothing to do. There were trained women weren't suppose to work there place was in the home. We just had an awful good time after I was, when I was courting, the courting days, because the house on 6th avenue had a front porch and it went on around to the side, had a side porch. And Clo, Miller and I, Clo (inaudible) and I would double date, and uh, Don Miller, Clo and Don would set on the side porch and we'd, and we'd, it was just terribly dark and we'd (inaudible) (laughter).

CTS: And you never got checked on?

NHT: Oh no, no they never got, no and I can remember one time now this (inaudible) [CTS: (Laughs) it's on.] but I can remember this one time when we were, we had double doors, double hallways and the doors were, were closed, you know, we had the back living room and it was a big room, and uh, momma, no we was sitting in the front room and we had forgotten to pull the doors to real close and there was a little crack like this and momma got up and peeked through that crack and just to see

what she could see, you know, and there we were standing right behind the crack and there I was just kissing in the night (laughter). Now we were trusted, good children we, they didn't do anything that wasn't right to do.

CTS: Cause that's the way you brought um up.

NHT: That's the way. And then in those days if you didn't behave yourself you's disgrace up to everybody's business. I think they held to stricter morals in those days than they do now, they might have been more, uh, well I don't whether you'd say prudish cause they didn't mean to be it was all unconscious. But, uh, we were more careful of what we did and you feel more responsible to the, to the family, it was a part of something that, that was important.

CTS: Well you told me about a house that you lived in that's on the corner of 6th avenue and . . .

NHT: Well now that's where I did all my courting (laughter)
 [CTS: 16th street?] 16 street and 6th avenue and Dr., Dr. John [CTS: Dr. John.] had an office there.

CTS: Didn't you tell me that there was a round room that . . .

NHT: Yes, my room up in the, it was all furnished in maple, and uh, up the mantle had a mirror all at one side and up in the top was a sort of open between the wall and the mantle and the mirror up there and I use to write my New Year's resolutions and hide it in that place, I always thought I'd go back and look at those and see what I left (laughter).

CTS: But you built that house?

NHT: We built that house, uh, huh, uh, yes I got to tell um how I wanted it.

CTS: Oh you did?

NHT: Uh, huh. Yeah the tower room and that [CTS: Is that one, is that one heated . . .] Harvey Jr. was born in that house.

CTS: My daddy?

NHT: Uh, huh, he was born in that house.

CTS: And now when, when uh, you were young you said your father had vaccinated you all, did you all have, uh, doctors that came very often or was it there that you went to the doctor?

NHT: No, no if you were sick you called, call the doctor and he came to the house, they didn't have offices that you went to. They all came general practioners and they come and we were really sick if you called a doctor, my mother was great on doctoring yourself and of course, uh, Harvey's brother was a doctor
 / CTS: Um, mmm. / and he didn't believe in that, he thought you ought to go to a doctor when you got sick. He was a great hand for plenty of doctors.

CTS: Can you remember any of the, you know, cures that your mother use to use before she would call a doctor?

NHT: Well I remember one cure she used (laughs). I was out in the backyard and it was just about dusk and we were playing blindman or something running around to a stool I guess it was and I hit a wire right at my throat and it made my throat sore so when I came in without telling her that I run into this wire I complained of a sore throat. So she gave me some medicine for the sore throat and in just a few minutes she went back, she hadn't checked and she went back and she looked at it and she said, "Oh my god, I've given you carbolic acid." Oh she, I like to had a fit and so did she and I said well I don't want to die, I don't want to die (laughter) and she ran next door to get help and they said well if you'd given her carbolic acid she would've, you would've burn her up, you didn't give her carbolic acid. She went and looked in the medicine closet and found no she hadn't she, (laughter) she had given me tobacco, as I remember I . . .

CTS: She, she thought she'd given you something else.

NHT: Yes she thought . . .

CTS: Well was she doctoring you for inside sore throat
and you'd hurt yourself on the outside?

NHT: Yes I'd hit, we'd been playing I didn't go right in,
you know, / CTS: Um, mmm. / I went on playing
/ CTS: Um, mmm. / and begin to feel sort of funny
and I guess I thought it was a sore throat and, and
I remember that distinctly.

CTS: Can't, is there anything else that you can think of
that you remember about?

NHT: No I can't, I think I'm bout played out.

CTS: Okay (break in tape).